ALASKA POTATO STOCKS

Alaska Division of Agriculture Alaska Cooperative Extension Ag & Forestry Experiment Station



U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service P.O. Box 799 Palmer, AK 99645

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As of April 1, 2001

All potato stocks (bin-run) in Alaska on April 1, 2001 totaled 55,000 cwt, down 41 percent from the 92,300 cwt on hand a year ago and compares with the March 1, 2000 stocks of 67,000 cwt. The five-year average stocks on hand April 1 is 79,000 cwt. Disappearance of potatoes since the start of the harvest to April 1 totaled 74,000 cwt. Last year, disappearance to April 1 was 92,000 cwt. Disappearance since March 1 was 12,000 cwt compared with 18,000 cwt. a year ago and the average 15,000 cwt.

TANANA VALLEY stocks on hand totaled 6,700 cwt on April 1, 59 percent of 2000 crop. Last year, 29,700 cwt of potatoes or 61 percent of production were in storage on April 1.

MATANUSKA VALLEY cellars held a total 6,700 cwt on April 1, 34 percent of production and compares with the March 1 stocks of 57,600 cwt. Last year 62,700 cwt or 47 percent of production was in storage on April 1.

KENAI PENINSULA had 300 cwt in storage on April 1.

15 MAJOR STATES held a record high 154 million cwt of potatoes on April 1, 2001, up 20 percent from last year and 4 percent above the previous record set April 1, 1997. Potatoes in storage accounted for 33 percent of the 2000 fall storage States' production, up 2 percentage points from a year ago. Disappearance, at a record high 308 million cwt, was up 5 percent from the last two years and 4 percent above the previous record set during the 1996 season. Potatoes used for processing to April 1 totaled 151 million cwt, up 1 percent from last year in comparable States. March processing of 19.9 million cwt fell 5 percent short of last year in comparable States.

WESTERN STATES held 120 million cwt of potatoes in storage on April 1, 2001, up 24 percent form the last two years. Washington's potato stocks were up 61 percent from a year ago, while Idaho's stocks increased 19 percent, and Oregon's were up 5 percent. Colorado's stocks increased 2 percent from last year and Montana's were up 27 percent. California's potato stocks were down 29 percent from a year ago.

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POTATO STOCKS - APRIL 1, 2001

AREA	STOCKS				PRODUCTION		Apr. 1 Stocks as Percent of	
AREA	APR. 1		MAR. 1		PRODUCTION		Production	
	2001	2000	2001	2000	2000	1999	2001	2000
	1,000 Cwt						Percent	
TANANA VALLEY	6.7	29.7	8.8	32.6	19.5	48.8	34%	59%
MATANUSKA VALLEY	48.0	63.0	57.8	76.0	108.5	135.0	44%	47%
KENAI PENINSULA	.3	.3	.4	.4	1.0	1.2	30%	25%
TOTAL	55.0	93.0	67.0	109.0	129.0	185.0	42%	50%

^{1/} Revised.

STOCKS ARE DEFINED AS THE QUANTITY REMAINING IN STORAGE FOR ALL PURPOSES AND USES, INCLUDING SHRINKAGE AND WASTE AND OTHER LOSSES AFTER APRIL 1.

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